

Samuel Treat (1648 – 1716/17)

Samuel Treat graduated from Harvard College in 1669. He was the eldest son of Robert Treat who became governor of Connecticut. He was the husband of Elizabeth Mayo who was the granddaughter of John Mayo.

Samuel Treat came to Eastham in 1672 where he was ordained in 1675. In daily life it was said he was friendly and jolly but on the Sabbath he preached hell fire and damnation and his voice could be heard at great distance from the meetinghouse. He was hired by Eastham as a young man and he served the same congregation for his entire preaching life.

He learned the Indian language and taught in several Indian villages from Yarmouth to Truro. There was a severe snow storm when he died in 1717. The Indians carried his remains from his house at Fort Hill through deep snow to Cove Burying Ground.

Samuel Treat had eleven children with his first wife Elizabeth Mayo who died in 1696 and two children with his second wife Mrs. Abigail Easterbrook.

1670

Land for public benefit and the Church should be kept reserved for use of any approved person or persons engaged by the Town in the work of the Ministry. The properties should never be sold or given away to any person or their heirs or assignees. PDF A192, M100, M101, S10.

1673

Twenty acres of upland were laid out at the head of the Town Cove for the public benefit awaiting a minister. The bounds were defined by marked oak trees. There was reference to the brow of the hill, the meadow at the bottom, woods and corner of a swamp. (This area now is known as Fort Hill). PDF A190, M98, S9.

Samuel Treat agreed to become Town Minister. Use of the twenty acres at the head of Town Cove was granted to Mr. Treat. It was agreed that a house would be built on the twenty acres for his use. PDF P30.

The town owned a parcel of upland and meadow lying on the other side of the brook between Nicholas Snow and Steven Atwood. If Mr. Treat would prefer to dwell on that land and build a house on that land at his own cost, he would be granted that land and dwelling as his own. PDF P30.

Several pieces of land were made available to Mr. Treat for his support and the support of his widow and children in the event of his death. This land included a parcel of upland and meadow bought by the town from John Young, three acres of meadow at the Mill Meadow and meadow and broken marsh at Lieutenant Island at Billingsgate. PDF P30.

1677

Granted to Samuel Treat all the broken meadow unlaidout in Great Meadow. The Town retains right of refusal if Mr. Treat or his heirs decide to sell the property. PDF A191, M100, S10.

Granted to Samuel Treat twenty acres of upland at the head of Town Cove. The Town retains right of refusal if Mr. Treat or his heirs decide to sell the property. (Mr. Treat became owner of the Ministry land at Fort Hill where he was living). PDF P29.

1678

The Town chose Deacon Twining and Deacon Freeman to take care about underpinning the house where Mr. Treat now lives. PDF P39, P40.

The Town voted to build a new meeting house. The location selected was “above the head of Goodman Williams’ old field near where he now lives”. The Town chose Mr. Freeman, Lieutenant Sparrow, Thomas Paine and John Doane Jr. to act in the Town’s behalf building the new meeting house. PDF P39, P40.

1681

The Town chose Capt. Freeman and Capt. Sparrow to agree with a workman to build a belfry for the meeting house to hang the bell. Four pounds were put in the country rate to cover the costs. PDF P43

1683

Granted to Samuel Treat a piece of swamp called Wolves Den Swamp and a slip of upland beside the swamp next to property of Daniel Cole. The bounds of the property are marked by stones. PDF A123, M174, S83.

1691

Ten pounds were added to Mr. Treat's annual salary by the Town in lieu of the wood that formerly was promised to him. PDF P59.

The Town ordered John Doane Sr. to get a pair of stocks and a whipping post made for the Town. Other records indicate the stocks and whipping post were installed next to the meeting house. PDF P60.

The Town granted liberty to Larrance Indian on behalf of the Potanomaquit Indians to set up a meeting house for their use near the head of the Salt Water Pond. Daniel Doane, Thomas Mayo and John Paine were appointed to set out land for this purpose on the western side of the cartway. The boundaries were indicated by marked trees. PDF P60.

1695

Manaseth Kempton gave to the Eastham Church five acres of upland and one and one half acres of adjoining meadow at Fort Hill. The bounds are marked by stones set in the ground. The five acres parcel ran easterly 31 pole (512 feet), northerly 24 pole (396 feet), westerly 32 pole (528 feet) and southerly 25 pole (413 feet). The property was next to property of Nicholas Snow. PDF M118.

1700

The Town decided that the meeting house should be enlarged sixteen feet in breadth to make it square. Israel Cole and John Paine were appointed to hire a workman, provide materials and oversee the project. PDF P88.

1703

Granted to Samuel Treat and his heirs forever all the upland and meadow belonging to the house lot where he now lives. Also granted to Mr. Treat and his heirs forever three acres of meadow at Mill Meadow at Billingsgate. If Mr. Treat should leave the work of the ministry and move out of Town, then as a condition of this grant the Town reserves the privilege to purchase the property at a price the Town and Mr. Treat should agree or at a price that "indifferent" persons should judge to be a fair price.

PDF A210, M125, M126, M127, P106, S50, S51.

Granted to Samuel Treat, Samuel Paine and Thomas Smith two adjoining parcels of meadow which are lots fourteen and fifteen lying on the middle flat of the Town flats. Each lot runs westerly 6 pole (99 feet) and southerly 104 pole (1716 feet) which is about four acres for each lot. The shares for Samuel Treat and Thomas Smith are “as seven and one half is to twenty” and the share for Samuel Paine is “as five is to twenty”. PDF A279, M166.

1704

Granted to Samuel Treat a small piece of land to set his house on near the western corner of the land where he now lives and near the entrance to the lane which goes to the house where he now lives. Stones mark the bounds. The land is six pole (99 feet) by four pole (66 feet). PDF M100, P113, S10.

1710

The Town voted to make null and void the 1703 requirement that if Mr. Treat leaves the Ministry and moves out of town then he must sell his property back to the Town. This 1710 vote grants to Mr. Treat, his heirs and assignees ownership of the property without any condition or reserve whatsoever. PDF A178, M80, S105, S106.

1711

Granted to Samuel Treat about four acres adjoining the north side the land where he now lives. The parcel starts next to his barn and runs easterly 42 pole (693 feet), northerly 20 pole (330 feet), westerly 40 pole (660 feet) and southerly 20 pole (330 feet). Bounds are marked by stones. There is a cartway two pole (33 feet) wide through the land down to the water. PDF T19.

Granted to Samuel Treat a parcel of land at Nauset for his wood lot containing an estimated six acres. It is on the northerly side of John Knowles wood lot and south of Wolf Trap Swamp. Marked trees defined the bounds. The bounds indicate an irregular five sided lot. PDF T19.

Granted for use of the Ministry a parcel of five acres by the side of the way that goes from Fresh Pond to the head of Namskaket. It runs westerly 40 pole (660 feet), northerly 20 pole (330 feet), easterly 40 pole (660 feet) and southerly 20 pole (330 feet). PDF T36.

1711 (cont.)

Granted for use of the Ministry five acres of woodland at Rock Harbor Meadow. The bounds defined by marked trees were approximately 52 pole (858 feet) by 15 pole (248 feet). PDF T36.

Granted for use of the Ministry a parcel of land containing about ten acres at Pochet lying above the northern end of the Dry Swamp. From the southeast corner of the property by the highway the property runs westerly 26 pole (429 feet), northerly 68 pole (1,122 feet), easterly 24 pole (398 feet) and southerly 64 pole (1,056 feet). The bounds are marked by stones. PDF T36.

Granted for use of the Ministry ten acres lying at Herring Pond. Bounds are indicated by marked trees and Lt. Snow's fence. The property runs northerly by the highway 30 pole (495 feet), westerly 44 pole (726 feet), southerly 23 pole (380 feet) to Lt. Snow's fence, southeasterly by the pond and easterly 24 pole (396 feet). The land could be used to settle a minister in that part of Town. (Note – A meeting house was built on this land in 1720 at the current location of Bridge Road Cemetery and a house for Rev. Benjamin Webb was built nearby). PDF T36.

The Town divided land at Great Island at Billingsgate into twenty four lots each four acres. The thirteenth lot was granted to a joint and equal partnership of Samuel Treat, Samuel Paine, Daniel Cole, Isaac Pepper and Jabez Walker. The bounds were defined by stakes. PDF T86, T88.

Granted for use of the Ministry for possible use to settle a minister ten acres of ordinary land and ten acres of woodlot at Little Billingsgate at a place called Chequesset. Bounds were defined by marked trees and run 64 pole (1,056 feet) northwesterly, 14 pole (231 feet) southerly, 4 pole (66 feet) southwesterly, 10 pole (165 feet) northwesterly, 12 pole (198 feet) southwesterly, 6 pole (99 feet) southerly and 75 pole (1,238 feet) northeasterly. (Note – This land was near the current Chequesset Neck Cemetery in Wellfleet.) PDF T133.

Granted for use of the Ministry at Little Billingsgate another parcel of land bounded by the land already laid out for the Ministry and by the land of Lt. John Doane. PDF T133.

Granted for use of the Ministry a five acre wood lot 19 pole (314 feet) westerly, 52 pole (858 feet) northerly and 19 pole (314 feet) easterly. It was next to woodlots of Nathan Young and Jabez Snow. PDF T178.

Granted for use of the Ministry five acres of woodland on the southeasterly side of Long Pond. Bounds were defined by marked trees and were 7 pole (116 feet) easterly and 72 pole (1,188 feet) southwesterly. PDF T178.

1712

Granted to Samuel Treat a four acre lot beginning at the northwest corner of his dwelling house running 37 pole (611 feet) westerly and 14 pole (231 feet) northerly next to the lot of Jabez Snow. There is a twenty foot way through the property. Bounds were defined by stones. PDF T19.

1715

The Town agreed three parcels of land should be laid out for the Ministry. One parcel should be north of Blackfish Creek, one between Blackfish Creek and the Meeting House and one somewhere in the southerly part of Town. PDF T178.

Granted for use of the Ministry about twelve acres in the southerly part of Town at Pochet. The parcel is on the northwest side of land formerly laid out for the same use and it is between land of Lt. John Knowles and Town Cove. It is bounded on the north side by land of Deacon Daniel Doane. Bounds are marked by stones. The boundary descriptions are not complete but indicate a parcel about 80 pole (1,320 feet) by 24 pole (396 feet) running south to the way that runs on the north side of the Dry Swamp. PDF T178, T316.

Granted for use of the Ministry about seventeen acres in the middle part of Town. Bounds are indicated by stones and marked trees. The parcel is on the westerly side of the roadway that goes towards Billingsgate and near the southeast side of Herring Pond. It starts near the land of Widow Paine and goes northwest 84 pole (1,386 feet) to the northeast boundary of John Witherill's land, north 20 pole (330 feet) and east 108 pole (1782 feet). The boundary descriptions are not complete but indicate a parcel running northwest about 100 pole (1,650 feet) by 25 pole (413 feet). PDF T178, T316.

1715 (cont.)

Granted for use of the Ministry twenty one acres of land at Billingsgate on the southwestern side of the way that goes from Daniel Mayo's land to Chequesset. Bounds are indicated by marked trees. The east side of the property runs north through a swamp. The boundary descriptions are not complete (e.g. the property runs north thru the swamp to a marked tree but the distance is not given) but suggest a parcel approximately 58 pole (957 feet) by 56 pole (924 feet). PDF T179, T316.

Granted for use of the Ministry two and one-half acres at Little Billingsgate at the northerly side of John Atwood's barn. Daniel Mayo's land is to the east. Bounds are indicated by marked trees and stones. Starting at a stake 4 pole (66 feet) from Atwood's barn the property runs northwest and west 22 pole (363 feet), northeast and east 40 pole (660 feet) and south and southwest thru a swamp. The boundary descriptions indicate a parcel approximately 35 pole (560 feet) by 15 pole (248 feet) running northeast. PDF T179, T316.

Granted for use of the Ministry four and one-half acres at Billingsgate north of the land of John Atkins. Bounds are indicated by marked trees. The property runs northwest 4 pole (66 feet), southerly 44 pole (726 feet) to the way that comes from Israel Young's towards Town, easterly 16 pole (264 feet), northeasterly 20 pole (330 feet) to the Atkins western boundary and 24 pole (384 feet) back to the first marked tree. PDF T179.

Granted for use of the Ministry about two acres near the mouth of Silver Spring River and north of Isaac Doane's land. Bounds are indicated by marked trees. The boundary measurements indicate a long, narrow lot running northerly about 35 pole (578 feet) by 10 pole (165 feet). PDF T179.

Granted to Samuel Treat about 16 acres near other Treat property towards Nauset. This was the ninety first lot in a series of land grants. The property is on the northwest side of the way that goes from Stephen Atwood's land towards Billingsgate. The property runs southwest 84 pole (1,386 feet) to a marked tree which is two pole (33 feet) from a corner bound stone which marks land owned by Mr. Treat. Then the boundary runs northwest 36 pole (594 feet), northeast 88 pole (1,452 feet) and southeast 30 pole (495 feet). PDF T238.

Granted to Samuel Treat the fifty seventh woodlot near the head of Blackfish Creek and near Great Cedar Swamp and Little Cedar Swamp. The dimensions and acreage are not given but adjoining woodlots are in the 15 to 20 acre range. PDF T278.

1719

Granted for use of the Ministry three parcels of meadow totaling about four acres. All are in the Chequesset Neck area of Billingsgate. One parcel is on the southerly side of Chequesset Neck. The parcel is bounded on the east by meadow of Thomas Lewis and runs south to the Creek. Another parcel of meadow is on the southerly side of Chequesset Neck and runs north to Herring River and east to the corner of other Ministerial land. Another parcel of meadow lies between the land of Samuel Mayo and the land of John Doane. PDF T321.

Granted for use of the Ministry about five acres of ordinary meadow at the southern part of Town on Pochet Flats. Bounds are indicated by stakes. The parcel runs southwesterly 24 pole (396 feet), northwesterly 32 pole (528 feet), northeasterly 24 pole (396 feet) and easterly 32 pole (528 feet). PDF T322.

Granted for use of the Ministry about five acres on the little flat called Nauset. Bounds are marked by stakes. The parcel begins at the southeast corner of the flat at the mouth of the creek and runs southwesterly 28 pole (462 feet), northwesterly 36 pole (594 feet), easterly 22 pole (363 feet) and southerly 36 pole (594 feet) to the first specified bound. PDF T322.

1740

Granted for use of the Ministry about three acres of meadow at Little Billingsgate in the North Precinct. It is located on the southerly side of Herring River on the back side of Cole's Neck next to meadows of John Sparrow and Benjamin Sweat. Bounds are indicated by marked trees. Dimensions are about 25 pole (413 feet) by 20 pole (330 feet). PDF T138.

During the time of Rev. Treat's ministry, the land grants to him and to the Ministry amount to about 200 acres. By 1745 five more Treats received Eastham land grants.